

City of Detroit



CITY COUNCIL

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PEGGY ROBINSON
Deputy Director
(313) 224-4946

TO: The Honorable City Council

FROM: David Whitaker 
Julianne Pastula 

DATE: April 10, 2006

RE: PETITION OF RIVER OF TRADE CORRIDOR COALITION (#0087)

At the Honorable City Council's request, the Research & Analysis Division (RAD) submitted a report on February 22, 2006, in regard to the River of Trade Corridor Coalition (ROTCC). A discussion at the table was held with representatives of the Petitioner, including elected officials, on March 22nd. During the discussion, the Petitioners informed the Council about the upcoming Quarterly Meeting of the ROTCC on April 20-21, 2006, in Dallas, Texas. The Petitioners invited the Council to join the ROTCC and designate representatives to attend the Dallas meetings. A copy of the draft Agenda and Registration Form are attached. Also attached is a copy of a letter received on April 7, 2006, from the Chair of the ROTCC, Bill Blaydes, who addressed this Honorable Body at the March discussion.

Since the proposed corridors to be constructed bypass Metro Detroit completely, the impact on Detroit would be significant. Detroit has the highest volume of surface transportation between the U.S. and Canada. Under the proposal to construct new trade corridors, the surface transportation would be routed through Port Huron. The economic benefits of retaining the historic I-75 corridor are significant enough to warrant membership in the ROTCC and work collectively to preserve Detroit's position as the gateway for international surface trade. Therefore, it is RAD's recommendation that the participation of this Honorable Body would be important and no apparent impediments to joining exist. During the March discussion, the Petitioners indicated that financial responsibilities for membership would include sharing the cost of mailings or other informational materials as well as responsibility for one's own individual travel costs.

The Petitioners visit to Detroit in late March was very productive. As a result of meetings held during their visit, Deputy Mayor Anthony Adams has joined the ROTCC to represent the Kilpatrick Administration, as well as Eddie Francis, Mayor of Windsor, Ontario.



RIVER OF TRADE CORRIDOR COALITION

DRAFT ROTCC QUARTERLY MEETING AGENDA

APRIL 20TH AND 21ST, 2006

HOST: DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

Thursday, April 20, 2006

- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Hotel Guests: Meeting Registration & Check-in – The Aristocrat Hotel
Dallas, 1933 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75201
- 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. “Welcome To Dallas” Dinner Reception – The Dallas World Aquarium,
1801 North Griffin Street, Dallas, Texas 75202
- ❑ Welcome Remarks -- Commissioner Maurine Dickey, Dallas County
 - ❑ Welcome Remarks -- Bill Blaydes, Councilmember, City of Dallas, ROTCC Chair

Friday, April 21, 2006

- 7:00 – 7:45 a.m. For Hotel Guests: Breakfast at Hotel and Shuttle to County Administration Building for Tour and Meeting
- 7:00 – 7:45 a.m. For Local Attendees: Registration/Sign-in for Tour and Meeting at the Dallas County Administration Building (All Day Parking available at the County Building)
- 8:00 a.m. Buses depart County Administration Building for Tour
- 8:00 – 9:45 a.m. Special Tour of Union Pacific’s Dallas Intermodal Terminal
- 10 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. ROTCC Quarterly Meeting and Lunch – Dallas County Administration Building, 411 Elm Street, Dallas, Texas 75202

April 21st Quarterly Meeting Agenda

10 – 10:30 a.m.

I. ROTCC Welcome and Administrative Update

- ❑ Bill Blaydes, Councilmember, City of Dallas, ROTCC Chair
- ❑ Commissioner Maurine Dickey, Dallas County
 - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 3, 2006
 - B. Recruitment Mission update
 - C. New member update
 - D. Legislative Caucus update – Texas State Senator John Carona

10:30 a.m. – 12 noon II. Concurrent Panel Sessions

A. Federal Panel

1. International Trade Patterns and Policy

- Dr. John McCray, Professor, The University of Texas at San Antonio (*invited*)
- George Schoener, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation (*invited*)
- David DeCarme, Deputy Director, Office of International Transportation and Trade, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation (*invited*)

2. NAFTA/CAFTA Update

- Walter Bastian, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Western Hemisphere, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (*invited*)
- Carlos García de Alba Zepeda, Mexican Cónsul General, Dallas (*invited*)
- Jean-Michel Roy, Canadian Consul General, Dallas (*invited*)
- Eddie Francis, Mayor, City of Windsor, Ontario (*invited*)
- Dan Stamper, President, Detroit International Bridge Company (*invited*)
- Anthony Adams, Deputy Mayor, City of Detroit, Michigan (*invited*)
- Elizabeth Flores, Mayor, City of Laredo, Texas

B. State / Regional Panel Discussion

1. Trans-Texas Corridor Update

- Michael Behrens, Executive Director, Texas Department of Transportation (*invited*)
- Marc Maxwell, City Manager, Sulphur Springs, Texas, Trans-Texas Corridor Advisory Committee Member

2. Regional and Metropolitan Councils of Government Panel
Discussion of Significant Corridor Projects and Transportation Assets

- Greg Royster, Principal Transportation Engineer, North Central Texas Council of Governments
- Fred Abousleman, Transportation Director, National Association of Regional Councils (*invited*)
- Jim McKenzie, Metroplan, Little Rock, Arkansas (*invited*)
- Louise Mercuro, Deputy Division Director of Planning and Development, City of Memphis and Shelby County, Tennessee (*invited*)

3. Regional Discussion of Corridor Impacts

- Ruby Vera, Mayor, City of Natalia, Texas
- Joe Mashek, County Commissioner, McLennan County, Texas (*invited*)
- Velmar Bailey, Justice of the Peace, Crittenden County, Arkansas
- Charles Nickerson, City Manager, City of Texarkana, Arkansas
- Terri Hollingsworth, Economic Development Administrator, City of Little Rock, Arkansas (*invited*)
- Gwynn Orr, President, Orrco International, Inc. (*invited*)

12:15 – 1:45 p.m.

III. Plenary Lunch Discussion

- ❑ Opening Prayer
- ❑ Richard Greene, Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6
- ❑ Signing of Memorandum of Agreement between the Environmental Protection Agency and the River of Trade Corridor Coalition
- ❑ Margaret Blum, Associate Administrator for Port, Intermodal, and Environmental Activities, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration (*invited*)
- ❑ Janice Hahn, Councilwoman, City of Los Angeles, California (*invited*)
- ❑ Bill Blaydes, Councilmember, City of Dallas, ROTCC Chair
- ❑ Maurine Dickey, Dallas County Commissioner

1:45 p.m. – 2 p.m.

IV. Administrative Update

1. Federal Legislative Update

- Multistate International Corridor Development Program
- Congressional High Priority Corridor Designation
- Congressional Caucus Update

2. Upcoming Meetings

- 2006 ROTCC Quarterly Meeting Calendar
 - August 11, 2006 – hosted by Irving, TX (Following the 9th Annual Transportation Summit)
 - December 2006

V. Old Business

- Eisenhower Protocol update

VI. New Business

2:10 p.m.

VII. Adjourn



ROTCC Quarterly Meeting

April 20 - 21, 2006

HOST: DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

Registration Response Form

Please complete and fax this form to Dean International, Inc. at 214.750.0124 to indicate which events you will attend at the ROTCC meeting on Thursday-Friday, April 20 and 21. For additional information, contact Bryston English at 214.750.0123 or benglish@dean.net.

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE MARK ALL BOXES THAT APPLY

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2006

- ☐ 7:00 – 9:00 P.M. "WELCOME TO DALLAS" RECEPTION
THE DALLAS WORLD AQUARIUM
1801 NORTH GRIFFIN STREET, DALLAS, TEXAS 75202

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2006

- ☐ 7:00 – 7:45 A.M. FOR HOTEL GUESTS: BREAKFAST AT THE ARISTOCRAT HOTEL DALLAS AND
SHUTTLE TO COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING FOR TOUR AND MEETING
1933 Main Street, Dallas, Texas 75201
- ☐ 7:00 – 7:45 A.M. FOR LOCAL ATTENDEES: REGISTRATION/SIGN-IN FOR TOUR
AND MEETING AT THE DALLAS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
(ALL DAY PARKING AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTY BUILDING)
- ☐ 8:00 – 9:45 A.M. TOUR OF UNION PACIFIC'S DALLAS INTERMODAL TERMINAL
Buses will depart the County Administration Building at 8:00 A.M.
- ☐ 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. ROTCC QUARTERLY MEETING AND LUNCH
DALLAS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
411 ELM STREET, DALLAS, TEXAS 75202

For reservations, contact the ARISTOCRAT HOTEL DALLAS reservation line directly at 214-741-7700 or 1-888-465-4329
(<http://www.hotel-dallas.com/index.html>). To receive the group rate, mention "Dallas County ROTCC."

It is recommended that reservations are made by April 12 to receive the group rate.

Please complete and fax this form to Dean International at 214.750.0124 by April 12.
Reproduce and circulate this form as needed. Thank you!



RIVER OF TRADE CORRIDOR COALITION

2005/2006 ROTCC OFFICERS

BILL BLAYDES, CHAIR Councilmember, City of Dallas, Texas			
ELIZABETH G. FLORES, CO-CHAIR Mayor City of Laredo, Texas	WILL LOWRANCE, CO-CHAIR Mayor City of Hillsboro, Texas	MARC MAXWELL, CO-CHAIR City Manager City of Sulphur Springs, Texas	F.G. "BUDDY" VILLINES, CO-CHAIR County Judge/Chief Executive Officer Pulaski County, Arkansas

April 7, 2006

Via fax: 313-224-0368

Ms. Julianne Pastula
Public Policy Analyst
City of Detroit, Research & Analysis Division
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 216
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Ms. Pastula:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me recently to discuss the River of Trade Corridor Coalition. It was a pleasure to meet you and the members of the Detroit City Council and I truly believe that by working together through this Coalition each of our cities, regions, and states will benefit considerably.

It is important for us to work together to address the important issues that affect the River of Trade Corridor, such as alleviating congestion, implementing and developing measures that facilitate the flow of commerce, addressing environmental issues to create the nation's first "Green, Clean and Safe" international multimodal trade corridor, exploring safety and security topics, and seeking funding opportunities available for this trade corridor. As all of these issues are vitally important to the Coalition and our respective communities, I encourage you to attend, or send a representative to attend, the next meeting of the River of Trade Corridor Coalition, hosted by Dallas County, Texas, on Thursday and Friday, April 20th and 21st, where each of these themes, as well as substantive dialogue concerning federal legislative issues and state and regional issues, will be fully addressed.

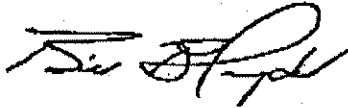
As a new member of the River of Trade Corridor Coalition, the City of Detroit's input is vitally essential and will help tremendously in strengthening the Coalition's efforts. With Laredo, Texas at the southern gateway, Los Angeles and Long Beach, California at the western headwaters and Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario at the northern gateway, the River of Trade Corridor Coalition continues to grow and strengthen. With this broad reach, the concerted and focused efforts of over 120 coalition members, uniquely positions the Coalition to facilitate the efficient and effective movement of trade between the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Asia. Collectively, coalition members speak with one voice regarding the issues that affect the communities and businesses along the corridor.

The growing River of Trade Corridor Congressional Caucus played a tremendous role in achieving a Congressional High Priority Corridor designation for a significant segment of the River of Trade Corridor in 2005. In addition, the River of Trade Corridor Legislative Caucus is also growing and will provide significant support with state-based issues. The ROTCC is focused on expanding these Caucuses and your support in this endeavor is vital and is greatly appreciated.

For further information, please contact:
Jean E. Sides, Dean International, Inc.
6080 Park Lane, Suite 600, Dallas, Texas 75231
Phone: 214.750.0123 Fax: 214.750.0124
E-Mail: jsides@dean.net

Once again, it was a great pleasure to meet with you to discuss the River of Trade Corridor Coalition's plans to unite the interests and actions of communities along the trade corridor. I look forward to an active dialogue and collaboration with you as we work together for the betterment of our communities through the River of Trade Corridor Coalition. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Jean E. Sides, Senior Public Policy Consultant, at Dean International, Inc., 214.750.0123 or jsides@dean.net, with any comments or questions.

Sincerely,



Bill Blaydes
Chair, ROTOC
Councilmember, City of Dallas

For further information, please contact:
Jean E. Sides, Dean International, Inc.
8080 Park Lane, Suite 600, Dallas, Texas 75231
Phone: 214.750.0123 Fax: 214.750.0124
E-Mail: jsides@dean.net